occurring for second consecutive year (or subsequent year) at the above rates and subject to the condition that the subsidy will be payable at appropriate rate per hectare upto 2 hectares only, irrespective of size of holding.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that Rs. 40 lakhs for Banda district, Rs. 200 lakhs for Mahoba district, Rs. 15 lakhs for Hamirpur district and Rs.500 lakhs for Lalitpur distict have been allotted for providing agriculture input subsidy and Rs. 50.21 lakhs for Mahoba district and Rs. 7.57 lakhs for Lalitpur district have been allotted for providing assistance for repair/ reconstruction of damaged houses, as per norms of expenditure for assistance from CRF/NCCF. The State Government have further informed that in view of crop loss of 50% and above due to insufficient rains, Banda, Chitrakoot, Mahoba, and Hamirpur districts have been declared as drought affected.

**Loss due to hailstorm**

1202. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTUREL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loss to crops in Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jhansi, Chitrakoot, Jalon and Lalitpur district on account of hailstorm in the second week of February, 2007;

(b) the assistanc being provided to farmers either by State Government or Central Government; and

(c) whether any request from the State Government has been received for relief to farmers in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) District-wise details of crop loss due to hailstorm in the second week of February 2007, as reported by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, is indicated below:

| District | Area affected (in hectares) | Loss to crop (Rs. in lakhs) |
|---|---|---|
| Banda | 174800 | 205.00 |
| Mahoba | 211603 | 7603.91 |
| Hamirpur | 2949 | 117.50 |
| Jalon | 6161.32 | - |
| Lalitpur | 16590 | 2681.73 |
| Jhansi | - | - |
| Chitrakoot | - | - |

(b) As per existing items and norms of expenditure for assistance for relief funds *i.e.* Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of natural calamities including hailstorm, assistance towards agriculture input subsidy is admissible to small and marginal farmers where crop loss on account of natural calamities is 50% and above. @ Rs. 1000/- per hectare for rainfed areas, Rs. 2500/- per hectare for irrigated areas and Rs. 4000/- per hectare for perennial crops. As per the existing norms/input subsidy is also admissible to farmers, other than small & marginal farmers, in case of severe calamity occurring for second consecutive year (or subsequent year) at the abbve retes and subject to the condition that the subsidy will be payable at appropriate rate per hectare upto 2 hectares only, irrespective of size of holding.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that Rs. 40 lakhs for Banda district, Rs. 200 lakhs for Mahoba district, Rs. 15 lakhs for Hamirpur district and Rs. 500 lakhs for Lalitpur district have been allotted for providing agriculture input subsidy and Rs. 50.21 lakhs for Mahoba district and Rs. 7.57 lakhs for Lalitpur district have been allotted for providing assistance for repair/reconstruction of damaged houses, as per norms of expenditure for assistance from CRF/NCCF.

(c) No, Sir.

**Acquisition of fertile land**

1203. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total cultivable land acquired for development in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) how far acquisition of fertile land for such development has adversely affected the agricultural production;

(c) how far such less production of agriculture has hiked the prices of the essential commodities; and

(d) what further steps have been taken by Government to ban acquisition of fertile land?